

REMARKS

Claims 25-124 are pending in the application. By the above amendment, claims 60-96 and 123-124 have been canceled as being withdrawn from consideration. Claim 1 has been amended to make a grammatical correction. Claims 25-59 and 97-122 stand rejected. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claim rejections.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 25-36, 40-59 and 97-122 stand rejected as being unpatentable over the U.S. Patent No. 5,850,629 to Holm et al. Claims 37-39 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Holm in view of Anderson. It is respectfully submitted that at the very least, Holm is legally deficient to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness against claims 25 and 97.

On a fundamental level, the inventions of claims 25 and 97 are *starkly different* from the teachings of Holms. Indeed, the claimed inventions are directed to systems and methods that are based on a *conversational computing* paradigm that provides conversational computing via a multi-modal conversational user interface by managing dialog and context, etc., across different platforms and devices having different user interface modalities.

For instance, claim 25 recites a conversational computing system, comprising *a multi-modal CUI (conversational user interface) manager for receiving input queries and input events across different user interface modalities and generating output messages and output events in connection with an active application in one or more of the different user interface modalities, and a conversational kernel for generating multi-modal dialogs in response to the input queries and input events.*

Claim 97 recites a conversational virtual machine, comprising *a kernel adapted to manage dialog and context, conversational engines and resources and communication across one of platforms, applications, devices and a combination thereof, having different user interface modalities, to provide a coordinated, universal conversational user interface (CUI) across the different user interface modalities, etc.*

At the very least, the above features are not disclosed or suggested by Holmes.

Essentially, the Examiner relies on the TTS system of Holm as being a “conversational computing system” and “conversational virtual machine”, as claimed in claims 25 and 97 respectively.

However, it is unquestionable that the disclosed TTS system does not even relate to the claimed inventions. Holm expressly teaches that the TTS system can only operate over different GUI-based operating systems that provide a necessary graphical user interface (GUI) and clipboard mechanism (see, e.g., Holm Col. 3, lines 1-14). In other words, Holmes discloses a TTS system that only enable GUI-based user interaction. Moreover, Holm discloses a GUI-based operating system (i.e., based on a conventional GUI paradigm), wherein the TTS system is built solely around the GUI paradigm. There is simply nothing in Holmes that teaches the claimed inventions, which are based on a conversational computing paradigm.

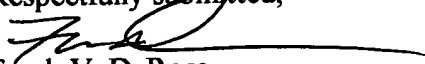
In fact, Applicants respectfully assert that the claims and the teachings of Holmes have not been properly construed and the Examiner has, instead, offered a strained interpretation to fit the teachings of Holm to the claim language. It is axiomatic that when evaluating claims, the Examiner must interpret the claims with the broadest *reasonable* interpretation that is consistent with the specification and the Examiner cannot interpret the claim language in a vacuum, but rather the claims should be interpreted in view of the specification as it would be interpreted by

one of ordinary skill in the . See, In re Sneed, 710 F.2d 1544, 1548, 218 USPQ 385, 388 (Fed. Cir. 1983); In re Bond, 910 F.2d 831, 833, 15 USPQ2d 1566, 1567 (Fed. Cir. 1990); In re Morris, 127 F.3d 1048, 1054, 44 USPQ2d 1023, 1027 (Fed. Cir. 1997).

Here, the Examiner's interpretation (in the Final Office Action, e.g., Page 2, ¶ 3 and Page 8, ¶ 2) of the plurality of TTS processes (i.e., transport control process, dialog box control process, dictionary editor processor, etc) as being "different user interface modalities" is wholly inconsistent with the teachings of Applicants' specification, Holmes, and that which is understood by one of ordinary skill in the art. A user interface is that which enables a user to interact with an application. The Examiner's reliance on the different elements (252, 254, 256 of controller (204) as being "different user interface modalities" is incorrect. Holmes teaches that the TTS control application (204) utilizes the Windows kernel function (208) in order to simulate an input keyboard copy command in the target application (see, Holm, FIG. 7, COL. 8, lines 12-26). Again, Holm teaches a GUI-based TTS system, and reliance on the TTS system of Holm as being a "conversational computing system" is wholly misplaced.

For at least the above reasons, claims 25 and 97 are clearly distinct and non-obvious over Holm. In addition, all claims that depend from claims 25 and 97 are patentable over Holm and or Anderson at least for the same reasons given for base claims 25 and 97. Accordingly, withdrawal of the claim rejections is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Frank V. DeRosa
Reg. No. 43,584

F. Chau & Associates, LLC
130 Woodbury Road
Woodbury, New York 11797
TEL.: (516) 692-8888
FAX: (516) 692-8889